



General	119
Buoyage System	119
Currency	119
Government	119
Holidays	119
Industries	120
Languages	120
Regulations	120
Time Zone	120
U.S. Embassy	120

Government



Flag of Jordan

General

Jordan, located in the Middle East, is bounded on the N by Syria, on the E by Iraq, on the SE and S by Saudi Arabia, and on the W by Israel.

The country is landlocked, except for its S extremity, where 16 miles of shoreline on the Gulf of Aqaba provide access to the Red Sea through the port of Aqaba (Al Aqabah).

The climate is predominantly Mediterranean with hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters.

The rainy season is from November to April. The E part of the country has an arid desert climate.

Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect. See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

Currency

The official unit of currency is the Jordan dinar, consisting of 1,000 fils. Some local Syrian units are still used.

Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

King Abdullah’s Birthday	January 30
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Easter Sunday	Varies
Independence Day	May 25
King Hussein's Birthday	November 14

Islamic holidays, which are subject to the appearance of the moon, include Eid Al-Fitr (End of Ramadan), Eid Al-Adha (End of Pilgrimage), Hijrah (Islamic New Year), Ashoora, Ascension of the Prophet, and the Prophet's Birthday.

Industries

Irrigation is increasing agricultural production. The principal crops include wheat, fruits, and vegetables.

Industries include phosphate mining, petroleum products, cement, potash extraction, pharmaceuticals, and tourism.

Languages

The official language is Arabic.

English is also widely used in commerce and government.

Regulations

Embargo

The naval interception effort in support of the United Nations sanctions pertaining to Iraq continues in the Arabian Gulf and other areas. [For further details, see Iraq—Regulations.](#)

Reporting

A Notice of Arrival and ETA must be sent to the harbor-master at Aqaba, through the ship's agent, at least 24 hours

before arrival. The ETA must be confirmed by radio before entering the Strait of Tiran. A confirmation of ETA by VHF is also required at least 2 hours prior to arrival.

Entry of ships to the anchorage between 2000 and daybreak is prohibited.

Time Zone

The Time Zone description is BRAVO(-2). Daylight Savings Time (CHARLIE (-3)) is maintained from the end of March through the end of October; the exact changeover dates should be obtained from local authorities.

World Time Zone Chart

<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/ref/pdf/802801.pdf>

U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy is situated at Jamel Amman, Amman.

The mailing addresses are, as follows:

1. International mail—
P.O. Box 354
Amman, 11118 Jordan
2. Diplomatic pouch—
APO AE 09892-0200

U. S. Embasst Jordan Home Page

<http://www.usembassy-amman.org.jo>